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Volume 12, Number 21

Serving New Jersey's African-American Community Since 1983

February 28 - March 5, 1996

NJ's 100 most influential



Jan M. Edgerton Johnson Vice President City News

NEWARK—Jan Edgerton Johnson, vice president of City News, announced plans to host a gala ceremony in May co-sponsored by AT&T to honor New Jersey's "100 Most Influential" citizens.

The idea grew out of a desire to focus attention on deserving individuals who have made significant contributions to furthering the progress of blacks in New Jersey and the development of New Jersey's urban communities.

A nominating committee representing corporate, public and private sector decision makers, will submit their choices for this year's honorees.

Approximately 10 categories will be recognized including science and technology.

Johnson commented, "We're delighted with the level of enthusiasm."

See INFLUENTIAL/page 2

WORK BEGINS ON LIGHT RAIL

HUDSON/BERGEN—The first phase to have NJ Transit's new Hudson Bergen Light Rail Transit System (HBLRTS) up and running is under way, and there are plans to see the first part of the 20 mile long service by summer 1999.

The new public transportation program, which was announced by former Governor Thomas Kean in 1985, will provide service from the Vince Lombardi Park Ride, in Ridgefield, to the southern end of Bayonne, and expects to carry up to 100,000 weekday riders daily, by 2010.

The Light Rail System, essentially light rail, will be able to accommodate approximately 190 passengers at a time, and will run on quiet, clean electric power. "When the first phase of the HBLRTS project is completed, it will serve commercial, residential and retail developments in the Jersey City corridor," densely populated neighborhoods," said Shirley A. DelBello, Executive Director of

See RAIL PAGE 10

NAACP VOICE STILL POWERFUL

by Ron L. Holland

ASBURY PARK—"You are a powerhouse. You stand in front of power on Sunday Mornings," said Elaine Harrington, NAACP State President, before a group of state and local NAACP leadership, politicians and area ministers recently at the St. Stephens AME Zion Church in Asbury Park.

The hour-long session was a completion of visits to several local churches by Harrington.

Holland and West Asbury Park/Nepenthe chapter president said the visits were to involve area churches in a team effort to confront local and national issues. "Teamwork," said West, is the key that will unlock the doors that are locked."

Speaking before a roundtable of 20, West said programs like affirmative action, educational and employment issues were under attack and the black church and the NAACP must unite to deal with the attack.

Harrington, who has led the State's chapters for several years said it was the intention of the 87-year-old organization to further establish ties with the black church, because "it is still the most powerful organization in the black community."

The Alabama-born leader, representing 41 NJ NAACP chapters said the organization is committed to

See VOICED/page 8

THREE BULLETS LEFT

by Sandra Wright

NEWARK—"The shooting was nothing less than a miracle. Each time he shot a bullet in my head God said 'no no no,' the shooter was not God and my life was in the hands of God."

These are the words of the Rev. William Barnett Jr., read by his wife Maribel from a prepared statement. Rev. Barnett, Pastor of Citadel of Hope Mission in East Orange, was critically wounded in a robbery on February 6 when 30-year-old Robert Reeves shot him four times.

"The years we now live in are very critical. There is no love displayed in the hearts of our children. Because of this we must dedicate our lives to teach our children to love one another and to love their parents and to appreciate one another, help one another and stand together."

Reverend Barnett, looking frail and vulnerable, was present at a press conference at UMDNJ last Tuesday,



Rev. William Barnett Jr. covers his windpipe in order to speak at a press conference at UMDNJ on Tuesday, February 20. Inset is an X-ray photo of the Reverend's head where three bullets are lodged. Two at the top of the head and one in the neck by the spine.

accompanied by his wife Maribel and Dr. Eric Munoz, lead trauma surgeon and medical director of UMDNJ University Hospital.

In his own words—and with much difficulty speaking because of a damaged tongue—Rev. Barnett told of the night when he dropped two children home and Reeves, a relative of one of the children, asked him for a ride.

He agreed, and while the van Reeves pulled out the gun and told him to give him his money. "He turned on me. I tried to reason with him, to talk him out of it, but he shot me." The Rev. continued that Reeves chased him after he ran and continued to shoot him.

Medical reports indicate that the Reverend was shot four times, twice in the head, once in the mouth and once in the chest. The bullet that entered his chest passed through his arm and the one from his mouth is lodged in his neck.

In the statement, the Rev. stated that through his school, the Citadel of

Hope Academy, located at 652 MLK Blvd. in Newark he will continue helping the community's children.

"I am determined, just as I was before the shooting to teach our youth love, respect and obedience but most of all love. It is time to practice what we preach."

According to Dr. Munoz, Rev. Barnett is doing remarkably well for someone who sustained such injuries.

The surgeon reported that it took 4 to 5 hours of surgery, 4 to 5 units of blood, a tracheotomy and a team of 25 physicians to stop the bleeding from the wounds because the Rev. suffered intensive hemorrhaging. Three bullets remain inside Rev. Barnett.

Munoz said the bullets, two of which are lodged in Rev. Barnett's head and one in the lateral side of the spine, pose no medical threat.

"There is no medical need to remove the bullets—which could be dangerous to remove. The one in the

See THREE BULLETS/page 3

Creating a nation of achievers in urban schools

by Henry C. Johnson, Ph.D.

The African-American community must push to have urban schools create a nation of achievers and the Black Press must lead the charge.

We must push to re-engineer urban schools to create massive achievement among African-American children.

Recent attacks on public education have managed to distract the nation's attention away from improving the condition of public schools in America. Yet, these attacks have done little to set a national or state agenda to create high achievement in African-American children.

Public schools are being abandoned as students receive voucher checks to go to private schools.

Creating a nation of achievers by utilizing our urban schools will have a significantly positive

social and economic impact on our suffering urban centers. If we find ways to increase achievement for these students all children will benefit. The nation benefits as well.

In spite of what reformers say there is no national, state, or local policy that is creating

achievement in schools that continue to under educate the nation's African-American and Hispanic populations.

See URBAN ACHIEVERS/page 9

Home Depot doesn't love its neighbor

by Kelly Howard

OXON HILL, MD—On Friday 2, 1996, the Home Depot located in Oxon Hill, MD, refused to honor a gift certificate presented by the director of a local community group. This is the second recent incident of racial discrimination in a store within Prince George's County. (See City News January 17 edition.)

Sarah Thompson, president of Love Thy Neighbor Community, Inc., along with a community volunteer

and three youth directors, all African American, had gone to the home improvement and building supplies store to purchase items for a house they were in the process of renovating. After selecting \$794 worth of assorted supplies, Thompson presented the \$1,000 gift certificate to the white cashier and the manager, who both refused to accept it. The certificate was purchased four days earlier as a donation to the organization by COMSAT Corporation.

"The store manager wouldn't let

us make our purchase even though a cashier had called for and received verification five times that (the certificate) was good," Mrs. Thompson said in a telephone interview. "It was like he thought there was no way a black, inner-city organization could have possibly gotten it legitimately. He told us we couldn't get our supplies until it was determined that the certificate was legitimate and that would take about two weeks."

See HOME DEPOT/page 8



A student gets hands on experience with television technology at Plainfield High School's recent C-SPAN Bus visit.

Lena's pes sue Asbury Park

by Ron L. Holland

ASBURY PARK—Depositions for a multi-billion dollar civil suit against the city began this week with Chief Charles Keechi, leader of the Lena's pe Nation Native American Tribe initiating the process. Several city officials, including Mayor Patricia Candiano are expected to be deposed.

The \$4 billion suit charges the city, specifically former councilman Angelo Chinnici with breach of confidentiality. Chinnici, who resigned last year amid charges of late property tax payments, is alleged to have provided confidential details of a proposed deal by the Lena's pe to a second Native American Tribe, the Delaware of Western Oklahoma.

The proposal lists several desired sections of the city, including parks, lakes and water-

front property to be developed by the Lena's pe. Although most of the proposal is still under seal, profits would accrue from "Tribal Commerce." Upon Federal Recognition, a cultural center and museum featuring traditional Native American wars, artifacts and educational materials would be available. Any money due the city would be paid through funds from these various "Tribal Commerce" utilizing a fee payment schedule.

According to a 29-page interrogatory of Tomislav Neuman, tribal representative of the Lena's pe, Chinnici agreed to conditions of confidentiality numerous times.

In a letter dated January 31, 1995 Chinnici said he sought out the Delaware Tribe and "if I had any intentions of lobbying for the Neuman group I would have never taken the time and expense to bring Chief Larry Snake and his

See LENA'S PES/page 5

555 years in captivity
In the land of cotton

by Kelly Howard

Plantation slavery, as it developed in the cotton kingdom, was something of an irregularity on the American frontier. Although slavery was almost as old as the permanent settlements in America, not until the nineteenth century did it occupy so much attention and energies of the settlers. The emergence of the great cotton plantation introduced a kind of exploitation of human and natural resources and fostered what came to be known as "that peculiar institution."

One of the most rapidly growing elements in the South was the population of slaves. In 1760 there was 325, 800 slaves in the colonies, over 285,000 were in the South. In fifty years the numbers increased dramati-

cally to 1,191,362 in the United States of America. The slave population of all the states of the lower South was increasing rapidly, while those of the upper South were either increasing slowly or actually decreasing.

While slaves were concentrated in the areas where the staple crops were produced on a large scale, the bulk of the slaveowners were small farmers. The concentration of a large number of all of the slaveholders in the small slave-owning group is significant for several important reasons, including the strength of the influence of the few large slaveowners.

In truth, the tremendous productivity of the large populations is what placed the large

See LAND OF COTTON/page 10

Claims of rape may be false

ELIZABETH—In a bazaar turn of events, an Elizabeth woman, who claimed that she was raped by two inmates in a bathroom in a release area, of the Union County Jail is now under suspicion of having fabricated the attack.

While Alveda Tornado has gone back to her original story, the evidence proving that consensual sex, rather than rape, occurred is amazing.

Tornado was transferred to Union County on Thursday, February 16 after being arrested the day before for numerous unpaid parking tickets.

Tornado was taken to the release area around 9:30 a.m. on Thursday night after her mother and live-in

boyfriend paid her bail.

She originally claims that when she entered the bathroom to change into her civilian clothes, two trustees (inmates) working in the area followed her in and attacked her. Monte Jackson, 25, of Springfield Street in Elizabeth, was accused by Tornado of putting his hands over her mouth and pulling back her hair, while Mark Cannon, 34, whose listed residence includes West Front Street in Plainfield, allegedly raped her.

Tornado claimed on Tuesday, February 20, that she was too frightened to see the jail with her brother, and did not say anything of the incident until she was at the bail bondsman's office.

The bondsman called the police, and she was taken to Elizabeth General Medical Center to be examined.

County police arrested the two trustees who claimed to be innocent, and they were charged on Friday by Superior Court Judge R. Barbone, who set bail for \$250,000 each.

Johnson was charged with aggravated sexual assault and conspiracy to commit aggravated sexual assault. He is serving three years for heroin possession.

Cannon, who was charged with aggravated sexual assault is serving a five-year sentence after being convicted of burglary last March.

Now, according to acting Union

See CLAIMS/page 10

In the land of cotton

1800—Gabriel Prosser plans a revolt of about 1,000 slaves in Richmond, VA, with the goal of seizing the capital and taking over the state. Effort is thwarted by the militia, and Prosser and his followers are executed.

Free blacks in Philadelphia formally petition the US Congress to pass new legislation to end slavery, the slave trade and fugitive slave law. Congress votes 85 to 1 against it.

1801—Playing on the fear of slave revolts in the southern states, the American Convention of Abolition Societies goes on record in favor of a system of gradual emancipation.

1802—Ohioans write a state constitution forbidding slavery and allowing free African-Americans to vote. Invasions continue in Virginia and North Carolina rumors of slave revolts are widespread, leading to

the arrest and execution of many blacks suspected of involvement.

1803 - South Carolina opens slave trade with South America and the West Indies. In New York City, protesting blacks burn houses and riot for several days.

1804 - By this year all the northern states have passed antislavery laws or measures to allow gradual emancipation of the current slave population. Ohio passes the first in a series of "black codes" to restrict the rights and movements of free blacks.

1805 - In Thompson v. Whitsett, the court decides that a slave who is promised freedom after a certain amount of time should be granted freedom and awarded over \$600 in damages.

1807 - Congress passes a law to abolish the importation of slaves from Africa, but illegal cargoes continue to go to the Civil War.

PEOPLE

Cutting the ribbon



Students win bias prevention poster contest

NEW BRUNSWICK—Vivek Saigal of Edison and Sandra R. Girado of Wallington, both seniors at Rutgers College, display their posters that won the Rutgers Bias Prevention Poster Contest. Saigal's poster, "Come Together and the Rain Will Stop," was named Best Statement of Diversity and Best in Show. Girado's poster, "Knowledge Stomps Out Prejudice," won Best Visual Depiction and Best Anti-Bias Statement. The annual competition calls on students to use visual arts to challenge hatred and intolerance.



NEWARK—John Dandridge, Jr., president and CEO of United Healthcare System, and Bernard Rabinowitz, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of United Healthcare System, cut the ceremonial ribbon at the unveiling of United's newest Family Health Center, located at 50 South Clinton Street, East Orange. The Center serves both pediatric and adult patients with a full range of general and specialty outpatient services.

Community Calendar

THRU MARCH 31
NEW YORK—"Drawings from the Collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II" will be presented at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. For more info call 212-535-7710.

THRU APRIL 28
NEW YORK—"Fabergé in America," will be on display at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. For more info call 212-535-7710.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
JERSEY CITY—"How to Finance Your College or Graduate Education" discussion with Karen DuAngelis, at noon. For more info call 201-200-3189.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29
NJ Symphony Orchestra Young People's Concert: Soundscapes 10 and 11:30 a.m. at Symphony Hall. For more info call 201-624-3713-216.

ORANGE—Hospital Center at Orange offering adult/pediatric heart/liver CPR courses 6 p.m. at the center. For more info call 201-266-2194.

FEBRUARY 29 THRU MARCH 1
ATLANTIC CITY—NJ Nursing Students, Inc. 44th annual convention at the Trump Plaza. For more info call 609-772-2590.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1
WAYNE—Former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Joycelyn Elders will speak on "Current Health Issues and the Future of Health Care Reform at William Paterson College Distinguished Lecturer Series, 8 p.m. in Shea Center. For ticket info call the Shea Box Office at 201-595-2371.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2
PLAINFIELD—Basic math volunteer tutor training program at the Plainfield Public Library 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more info call 908-755-7998.

MONTCLAIR—Seventh annual Men at Montclair conference "Rainbow Men Working for Personal and Social Transformation at Montclair State University 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 201-744-3342.

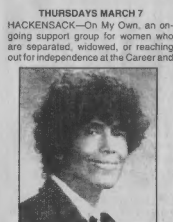
NEWARK—Discussion: Coming of Age in Mississippi with Ann Moody at 6:30 p.m. at the Newark Public Library. For more info call 201-733-5411.

MARCH 2 & 3
RUTHERFORD—Tenth annual Cerebral Palsy Touch Football Classic at Giants Stadium from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. For more info call 201-874-1150, ext. 27.

MARCH 5 & 6
WESTFIELD—Basic Techniques for Walpspring at Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the 6th. \$5 registration fee is required. For more info call 908-654-8524.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6
NORTHEY CITY—Join the tour of Vogue/Butterick Patterns Company hosted by Fabric Land. Bus leaves Fabric Land at 8 a.m. and returns at 5 p.m. \$25 round-trip fee. For more info call 908-755-4700.

NEWARK—Art exhibition opening: Practicing What We Teach by the Newark School of Fine & Industrial Arts, 7 to 9:30 p.m. For more info call 201-705-3880.



Sen. Wynne Lipman
Life Counseling Center. Meeting time at 6:30 p.m. for more info call 343-6000, ext. 2259.

MARCH 7 & 9
NEWARK—Play The Confession Note. The Riteing of New Testament Stories featuring the East Lynne Theatre Co. in the Newark Public Library auditorium at 6:30 p.m. 2 p.m. on the 9th. For more info call 201-733-7798.

SELF-DETERMINATION

Our destiny is largely in our own hands. If we find, we shall have to seek. If we succeed in the race of life it must be by our own energies, and our own exertions. Others may clear the road, but we must go forward, or be left behind in the race of life. If we remain poor and dependent, the riches of other men will not avail us. If we are ignorant, the intelligence of other men will do little for us. If we are foolish, the wisdom of other men will not guide us. If we are wasteful of time and money, the economy of other men will make our destitution the more disgraceful and hurtful.

— Frederick Douglass

Influential

Continued from page 1

the program is receiving from both the corporate and private sector alike. We don't have to look beyond our state line to recognize the many unsung heroes and she-heroes. It's time we paid tribute to our own."

The First City News 100 Most Influential promises to be a most memorable event. Special guest appearances, celebrities and VIP's will round out the program. Joining the event as sponsor is First Union of New Jersey.

Volunteers needed

CRANFORD—The Mental Health Association of Union County is in need of volunteers for its Community Programs to provide support and friendship to adults over coming mental health problems. And to children in need of a positive role model.

Volunteers should be ready to give two or three hours per week. For more information, contact Jaime Delgado at 908-272-0300.

Waiting to exhale

NEWARK—The Newark branch of the NAACP is hosting a Women's History Month "call and response" program entitled "Waiting to Exhale" at the Marlford Medical Building UMDNJ, 65 Bergen St. at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 6.

Guest speakers will be on hand to offer a variety of information about life in the '90s as a woman. For more information call 201-624-6400.

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Converts to 1-Year ARM in 5 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually				
RATE	APR	MAXIMUM LOAN	MONTHLY P&I PER \$1,000	CAPS
6.500%	6.950%	\$500,000	\$6.33	2% annual & 5% lifetime

3/1 ARM 30 Year Term				
Converts to 1-Year ARM in 3 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually				
RATE	APR	MAXIMUM LOAN	MONTHLY P&I PER \$1,000	CAPS
6.250%	6.990%	\$500,000	\$6.16	2% annual & 5% lifetime

1 YEAR ARM				
RATE	APR	MAXIMUM LOAN	MONTHLY P&I PER \$1,000	CAPS
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City News salutes Black History Month

Now, more than ever, we need to keep in tune with our history. It is a history of pain. It is a history of laughter. It is a history of joy. It is a history of creation. It is a history of challenge. It is a history of great people, past and present. A history of strong, proud, determined, BLACK people. And so it should always be remembered and celebrated.



NATION

Don't miss the message

by Reverend Jesse L. Jackson

NEW HAMPSHIRE—I know it's unseemly to say it—but I told you so! Patrick Buchanan, baggage and all, is aloft, lifted to victory in New Hampshire by a potent message of economic nationalism, political populism and social reaction.

The first Republican primary has been won by the candidate that rails against "the betrayal of working Americans who lose their jobs in trade deals made for multinational corporations that care nothing about America or its people."

For many Republican voters in NH—even in the midst of a recovery that has reduced official unemployment figures to 3 percent—Buchanan's message made sense. He alone stood with working people against economic violence—the merging of corporations and purging of workers.

He alone spoke against the radical economic polarization that angers and frightens people, an economy in which wealth and profits go upward, jobs outward, the middle class backward and the working poor backward.

Both companies and government brag about downsizing. Now the people who are outsized are fighting back. Buchanan has captured their attention. They see him as a man of convictions, stating what he believes, standing against the packaged politicians with their fingers in the wind.

The insider favorite, Bob Dole, reflected the establishment's shock. "We didn't plan it this way," he said the day before the primary. "I didn't realize that jobs and trade and what makes America work would become a big issue in the last few days of the campaign." ("Where has he been?" asked Buchanan.)

Although Dole's remark will be ridiculed, it perfectly describes the widespread establishment consensus that things are about as good as they can be. A little tinkering might be done around the edges, deficits brought under control, but the conventional wisdom holds, nothing need

or can be done—even if people are hurting, insecurity spreading, and wages falling. People should just lower their expectations and accept their lot.

Don't underestimate the power of Buchanan's message. This was not an upset, a last minute, Hail Mary, touchdown pass. Buchanan beat Dole and Alexander straight up. He may have the wrong answers but he is asking the right questions—and people have been demanding that these concerns be addressed for a long time.

I raised these issues in 1988. Voters turned George Bush out of the White House when he didn't get it in 1992. When Democrats failed to act, they booed them from Congress in 1994. And people are still looking for a champion against the callous companies that treat them as disposable goods, a corrupt government that sells them out, and a complacent establishment which does not have a clue.

Don't underestimate the anger at the economic violence people are suffering. Take one example. These days CEO salaries soar even as their companies sour. AT&T has announced the firing of 48,500 workers in the last two years—largely due to bungled mergers and bad management strategy.

Yet Robert Allen, AT&T's Chairman, who helped lead the company into the mess, sees no reason to sacrifice any pay or perks as part of a shared sacrifice. Indeed, he reaped a multi-million dollar bonus when the company stock price rose after the firings were announced. People are not going to go quietly into this foul night!

Buchanan warned his followers that the full force of the establishment is about to descend on him. He knows better than most the falling he is about to receive from the media. They will assault him for protectionism but that is just a label.

Calling for fair trade is not protectionism, it is just fair. You can support free and fair trade, but oppose the unchecked corporate order enforced by this NAFTA and this GATT.

Buchanan's real problem is that his answers are wrong and dangerous. He chooses a scapegoat politics of fear that leads nowhere. Mexicans are fleeing for survival, not coming to take our jobs.

Women and African Americans seek affirmative action to unlock closed doors, to level the field, not to gain an edge. Gay bashing is wrong and dangerous. Anti-Semitism has no place in our politics.

Ending all immigration or repealing civil rights laws offers no way out for the pain people feel. Instead, it simply divides them and feeds their fears leading to hate crimes, church bombings and gay slaying.

The White House is said to be overjoyed at the Republican disarray. Whoever survives this alley fight will enter the general election badly wounded. But the White House would be well advised to stop listening to pundits and start listening to voters.

The feel good, kinder, gentler message that the White House is peddling seems as out of touch as George Bush was four years ago. And while Buchanan may go down, Ross Perot waits in the wings—a similar economic message and without the hate. If the White House doesn't get the message soon, working people will keep looking elsewhere for help.

Three bullets

Continued from page 1

spine could be removed but would take a fairly major operation to do so and it wouldn't help in any way," Dr. Munoz told reporters.

The surgeon seemed fascinated with the fact that the wounds were not fatal. He even described the outcome as "miraculous."

"This is very unusual. If this happens across the country you would see most people with these kinds of injuries leaving the hospital. It is miraculous, most people who get four or five gun shot wounds around the head will not survive. Whether it is luck or some other force that was helping him, we don't know," Munoz stated.

None of the shots entered the Reverend's skull which, according to



The real gap—not learning our history.

Lena'pes sue

Continued from page 1

expense to bring Chief Larry Snake and his Council before you."

Yet only a few weeks before, Chinicki's December 21, 1994 letter to Chief Keechi offers to accommodate the Lena'pes with free office space and "a firm commitment to care for your members at no expense in case of illness or accident during

their initial stay."

The letter further states that the Lena'pes presence in the city would be "an exhilarating experience to the entire community." Chinicki concludes the letter with his and the Mayor's desire to have the Lena'pes "little ones" enrolled in the school

See LENA'PES SUE/ page10

National News at a Glance

LOUISIANA NIGHTCLUBS OPEN DOORS TO BLACKS

A Louisiana nightclub that was sued for refusing to admit an African-American prosecutor and a bar that denied service to an African-American teacher each have agreed to end their racial discriminatory practices. La Pousserie in Beau Rivage and the C'est Ma Vie Lounge in Broussard admitted to unlawfully refusing to serve African-Americans. U.S. Justice Department investigators had sent teams of white and blacks to the clubs and witnessed the admittance of the white teachers and the turning away of blacks. —LAFAYETTE, LA

100,000 SIGNATURES FOR NIGERIA

The new Coalition For Fairness in African Policy has launched a campaign to secure 100,000 signatures on a petition to President Clinton opposing the use of economic sanctions against Nigeria. The drive is headed by Dorothy Luavai, president of the National Newspaper Publishers Association and Archbishop George Stallings, organizer of the National Clergy Task Force on Africa. The group seeks to complete the campaign by Black Press Week, which begins the week of March 11. —WASHINGTON, DC

PEOPLE OF COLOR ARE POOREST

People of color represent 42 percent of America's uninsured population, African-Americans, Latinos, Asian Pacific Islanders and Native American/Alaskan Natives, respectively account for 24.3%, 15.3%, 2.2% and 9% of Medicaid recipients in the U.S. Women are the overwhelming majority of Medicaid recipients, accounting for 67% of the 31.2 million recipients in 1992. —WASHINGTON, DC

"I'm recommending Mercy for any family with Medicaid."

—Louis Gossett, Jr.

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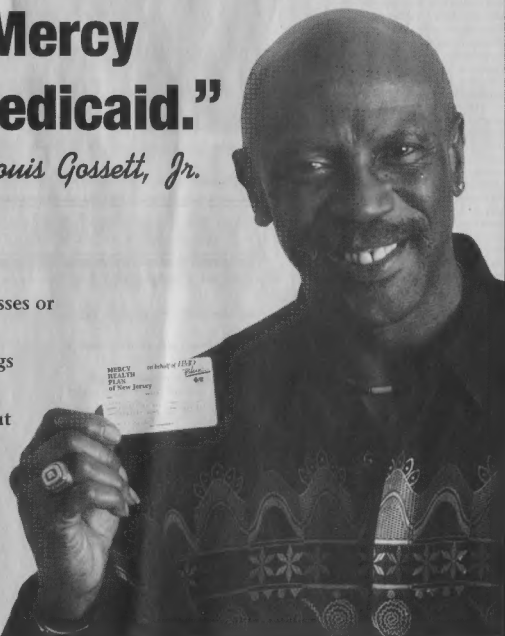
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EDITORIAL

Keep the flame burning bright

As we come to the close of 1996's African American History Month, we should take the time to reflect upon the many things that this period has taught us. Beyond the greatness of our race, the most important of all is that of education and learning. Learning our heritage is only part of what we must do. We should take examples from our ancestors and take every opportunity to learn something new and impart that learning to our children.

Many of the youth today have no comprehension of the richness of their history and unfortunately play up to the myth of ignorance as a hereditary trait of our race.

While we complain about poor school systems, unequal treatment and funding between urban and suburban schools, and inadequate teaching philosophies, especially when it comes to history, we lose sight of the fact that our children are not getting taught. Too many teenagers are barely graduating from high school with the skills to make it in the work world or college life.

We must not leave the job solely to others, but must become involved in our schools, help with homework, take time to help a child learn something new. These are simple but necessary steps in seeing that our rich history will continue. And while we are doing it, we may surprise ourselves about what we can learn from teaching our youth.

THE PASTOR'S WORD

Black men making a difference

by Rev. Reginald T. Jackson & Ruford S. Wheeler

Last October between 35 and 40,000 black men from New Jersey attended the Million Man March. The march was not just a gathering of black men; it was a commitment to make a difference in our communities.

Since October the New Jersey Million Man March Coalition has been meeting and organizing to make that difference. In April the Coalition will present "Blue Print For Progress: Follow Up to the March." It will detail steps to make a difference in our communities and to improve the quality of life of black men and women across the state. Especially those who live in drug infested and poor neighborhoods. It will promote empowerment politically and economically as well as helping students improve their learning and focusing on our health. This "Blue Print" is designed to precede the "March to Trenton."

So then, why March to Trenton? We need to go to Trenton for several reasons. First, we need to go to Trenton to demonstrate our unity. There is widespread perception in this state that we are divided, that the clergy is divided, the black elected officials can't get along with each other, that black don't support black businesses and don't participate with schools in educating our children. All of this is true not only in the black community, but to some extent in every community around the state.

But it is not true of all or most blacks in this state. The March to Trenton is intended to erase this perception. We are calling all black clergy, elected officials, business people, professionals, educators, and parents to come to Trenton to demonstrate our unity and to publicly commit ourselves to work together for progress.

Second, we need to go to Trenton to affirm that the energy and excitement of the Million Man March is still alive. We didn't leave it in Washington and we haven't lost it over the last four months. What we have done is organized and worked out the details over the last four months so that the "Blue Print" we put together will be effective and make a visible difference in our people and communities. Some have said they see no real difference in black men or our communities since the Million Man March, others have said like things before it. The Million Man March didn't have lasting power, it fizzled out. Well there have been changes in local communities since the Million Man March, like men working together, patrolling streets, helping the sisters, attending children's school and other positive changes. They haven't made headlines, but they've made a difference, however small. The March to Trenton is the kick-off and confirmation that the energy and excitement is still alive and that our commitment to our families, communities and people run deep.

CITY NEWS

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CITY NEWS

February 28 - March 5, 1996

OPINION

AS I SEE

by Connie Woodruff

Rick Thigpen, Congressman Donald Payne's chief of staff in the New Jersey office recently called to "set the record straight."

According to Thigpen, the staffer more or less in charge of Payne's "African American Alliance" group, no candidate for any office was endorsed by the group that met in New Brunswick several weeks ago.

Torricelli is seeking the Democratic Party nomination for the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Sen. Bill Bradley. Thigpen said Rep. Torricelli was one of several speakers invited to discuss issues of interest to the black community.

It appears Mr. Torricelli is taking nothing for granted. He not only spent time answering questions at the Alliance meeting but has subsequently made courtesy calls on folks like Mayor James of Newark.

Essex County is the state's most important Democratic stronghold. It is not unusual for the minority vote in Essex to mean victory or defeat in a hotly contested campaign from county to national politics.

At the present time, political people-watchers have their eyes trained on Essex Democratic Party Chairman Tom Giblin and whether or not he will face opposition for reelection this year.

According to reliable sources, Giblin's chairmanship (if he chooses to run again) may be challenged by a coalition of white and Latino leaders fearful of losing the Democratic quality organization endorsement.

This is not only the year the chairman must run for reelection but members of the county committee as well.

Therefore, it won't be surprising to see one or more rival groups fielding county committee candidates who will have an opportunity to vote for or against Giblin as chairman following the June primary.

Some of this in-fighting could find fertile ground in Trenton and the state Democratic chairmanship currently held by Tom Byrne who seems to have an on-again, off-again relationship with Essex County Democrats.

Somehow in all of this planning and strategizing, the name of political boss Steve Adduto keeps creeping into every discussion. The other name we keep hearing is that of a state senator from Union County who is rumored to have his eye on the state Democratic Party chairmanship.

Clearly, East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper has emerged in a strong leadership position. At the meeting of the N.J. African-American Political Alliance (NJAAAPA), Rep. Torricelli noted the Democratic Party is expected to name Cooper chairman for his senatorial campaign as well as the New Jersey Clinton-Gore presidential bid.

He also announced that John Currie, chairman of the Passaic County Democratic Committee would be given strong consideration as the vice chairman of the state Democratic Party.

Cooper and Currie are members of the NJAAAPA and their selection will be another feather in Congressman Payne's cap. However, neither appointment will be "historic." In past years blacks have had identical roles in Democratic Party politics.

Former Mayor Ken Gibson and others held policy-making positions in the presidential campaign of Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton and for years black women have served as vice chairs of the state Democratic Party.

Surely Congressman Payne must realize it's time to move beyond tokenism and the time to do it is now when white politicians in particular have a lot to lose.

Black folks are smart enough to know the "conservative trend" dominating Capitol Hill has supporters on both sides of the aisle.

Run, Pat, run!

by Sharon Khadijah Vincent

Pat Buchanan has the elite in the Republican Party scared. People should attack themselves. "Why?" He has been one of their chief attack dogs over the years, barking out his racist, sexist and chauvinistic remarks to the so-called party faithful. Pat Buchanan, the ultra-conservative, the highly paid talk show personality who has attacked virtually everyone with the possible exception of white Anglo-Saxon males. But, alas, even some of them are now finding themselves being tongue lashed by their buddy, Pat Buchanan.

Senator Bob Dole sure isn't laughing anymore. Pat Buchanan slammed dunked Bob Dole's scowling face into the snow mounds of New Hampshire with his first place finish last week.

This comes on the heels of his strong second place finish in Bob Dole's home territory of Iowa, and first place finishes in Louisiana and Alaska. One would think Republican Party officials would be pleased and happy over the possibility that Mr. Ultra Conservative, Pat Buchanan, might emerge as their party's presidential candidate and leader in the upcoming elections. After all, he does stand for their core beliefs... doesn't he?

Apparently, the reality of Pat Buchanan's escalating influence and power in the Republican Party is sobering for many. Mr. "Contract with America" architect, House Speaker New Gingrich has called Buchanan an extremist. Senate Majority Leader and presidential hopeful, Bob Dole has called Buchanan an extremist. This is very ironic, indeed, because Buchanan shares most of their ideas and beliefs.

When Bob Dole starts talking about the need for "tolerance" as he seeks the position himself to the left of Buchanan, he needs to review some of his most recent statements and comments. The same holds true for Newt Gingrich and some of the other Republican supporters.

The main difference in Buchanan's message as opposed to Bob Dole's, Newt Gingrich's and other Republican leaders, is his economic message. He wants to put a fence around America, keep everyone out, limit trade and cut off all expanding markets. That's what the Republican Party leadership concerned; the interest of the ruling class is not served by Pat Buchanan's views on this issue.

It's not an accident that the main platform of the Republican Party candidates hasn't been the highly touted and publicized so-called "Contract with America." That's because, while America has realized that contract that they thought was only out on African Americans and other oppressed nationalities, has gunned down many of them.

The cutback in wages, loss of jobs, educational opportunities, etc. have had their expected impact on our communities, but, the attacks against the working people have cut across the racial divide, and workers of all colors and backgrounds have had their hopes dashed and their insecurities heightened.

Pat Buchanan appeals to those individuals in the Republican Party who find themselves at the bottom of the economic strata, fighting hard to survive. His scape-goating of immigrants, and isolationist policy provides simple answers to complex issues.

It doesn't require them to think too hard, or to really look in depth at a monochrome and unrealistic view of the world as it exists today. Pat Buchanan plays on the white man. He doesn't attempt to cloak and hide his views (well, at least not too much) as the Gingriches, Doles, Alexander, etc. of the Republican Party elite attempt to do when it suits them.

The Republican race has turned out to be quite fascinating and enlightening. Over the next few weeks, we'll see a vicious campaign waged against Pat Buchanan by the media and the Republican Party elite.

Buchanan's talk of messing with multi-national corporate profits by trying to cut off and close down world markets, isn't a big hit with them and certainly not in their future plans. The statement about, "oh, what a tangled web we weave," has tripped up Republicans like Bob Dole. Dole is right in saying that he is in a fight with Buchanan for the "heart and soul of the Republican Party." Unfortunately, at the moment, Buchanan has captured the interest and imagination of the party faithful. Will the rest follow?

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YOUTHBEAT

Kids Calendar

WEDNESDAYS THRU SUNDAYS
NEWARK—Astronauts: The Star Travelers will be shown at the Newark Museum Dryfuss Planetarium, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more info call 201-596-0638.

THRU FEBRUARY 28
CRANFORD—A course entitled "Basic Baseball Skills" will be offered to children and adults at Union County College each Wednesday at 6 p.m. For more info call 908-708-7600.

ATTENTION—Elizabeth NAACP Youth Council presents its annual Black College Tour to Atlanta. Nine colleges in five days. Meals included. For dates and more info call Tasha 908-355-4884, or Daryn 908-354-0074.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
PATERSON—ESSAY CEREMONY at the public library, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. winners will be announced. For more info call 201-357-3000.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2
JERSEY CITY—JCSB will offer a review course for the SAT through its Saturday course from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. For tuition info call 201-200-3089.

MARCH 2 THRU 30
JERSEY CITY—JCSB will offer its Saturday Gifted and Talented Education program for talented youth in grades four through six on consecutive Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. For tuition info call 201-200-3089.

MARCH 2 THRU MAY 18
JERSEY CITY—"Spanish Enrichment for Children," a ten-part Saturday course at JCSB for children of Hispanic heritage in grades K thru six. For more info call 201-200-3089.

MARCH 5 - RING 9
RUTHERFORD—Thrilling "Bros. Brown" reality show featuring "Atlanta the Human Arrow" at the Continental Airlines Arena (formerly the Meadowlands). For tickets call TicketMaster at 201-507-8900, or 212-307-7171.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6
WESTFIELD—Camp Hoover Information Night at Washington Rock Girl Scout Council, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-232-3238.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9
JERSEY CITY—JCSB review course for the SAT through its Saturday course from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. For tuition info call 201-200-3089.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

It's OK to play with your food

WENATCHEE, WA—Fast food may never be the same again. Fourth and fifth graders across the nation will learn the benefits of eating a variety of fruits and vegetables in the Lunch Box Derby—a program challenging students to design, build and race model cars made completely out of fruits and vegetables.

The program, sponsored by the Washington Apple Commission, is intended to give kids a dietary tune-up by teaching them the size, shape, texture, tastes and nutritional value of fruits and vegetables.

"We're not looking for the fastest cars, but cars which travel the farthest. It's important that kids understand what makes a high-performance car body also makes a high-performance kid body. The message we're trying to get across is eating fruits and veggies will help your body go the distance," Thomas said.

The cars should be designed and raced at school with the supervision of the teacher. Students will divide into groups of four and make an inventory of available parts—fruits and vegetables of every variety. Each team designs their vehicle on paper, with the teacher making the necessary parts from the food. The cars will be assembled using only three bamboo skewers, four toothpicks and a rubber band to hold it all together. Teams will place their cars at the top of an eight-foot ramp and let them coast. The vehicle traveling the greatest distance takes the checkered flag.

Teachers can receive a free sign-up package including racing guidelines, stickers and a nutrition education kit by writing to Lunch Box Derby, P.O. Box 550, Wenatchee, WA 98801, or by calling 509-663-9600.

To enter the national contest, teachers should send in the names of students on the winning team, a photo of their car and the distance the car traveled. The top four teams will win an all-expenses paid trip to the national finals in Chicago in May. The deadline for entries is April 26, 1996.

Educational opportunity for minorities

HOUSTON, TX—Minority college students interested in medical careers may apply for the Honors Premedical Academy, a six-week summer program at Baylor College of Medicine and Rice University, both in Houston.

The program, funded in part by The Robert Wood Johnson Founda-

tion, aims to increase minority participation in medicine by making participants more competitive in the application pool. Students earn nine undergraduate hours and are paired with Bay or physicians in the morning and take afternoon science and communications classes at Rice. Tuition and housing are free.

Applicants must have a 2.75 grade-point average and a 3.0 GPA in their majors. They must demonstrate a serious interest in medicine and be African-American, Mexican-American, mainland Puerto Rican or Native American. Additional information is available by calling 1-800-798-8244. The application deadline is April 1.



Chillin' with the tiger

PARSIPPANY—Getting a kiss on the hand from the Exxon gift at the New Jersey Special Olympics Winter Games Athletes' Victory Dance is Special Olympian Michael Hood of Newark. Photo credit: Stella Hart, Inc. Also Thomson The Olympics was sponsored by Exxon.

Bradley seeks participants for student leadership seminars

NEWARK—Senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ), who is holding his final High School Student Leadership Seminars next month, is inviting former participants to come back and share their experiences.

Bradley, has hosted a Student Leadership Seminar for 16 years. The seminars are designed to increase high school students' knowledge and interest in government and to give them a chance to examine some of the

critical issues facing the nation. After the seminars students are asked to share their experiences with other classmates at their schools by conducting debates on topics covered in the seminar, writing an article for the school newspaper, or by speaking to a school assembly.

Participants are selected by principals and guidance counselors to represent each of the 393 high schools in the state. Since 1980, more than 6,000

students have attended the one-day workshops.

The 1996 sessions will be held on Monday, March 11, beginning at 8:30 a.m., at Rutgers University in Piscataway, and Tuesday, March 12, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Camden County College in Blackwood.

"It would be exciting to have those who participated in the past attend this session," said Bradley. "Over the years, I have met so many people who reminded me that they attended a leadership conference and told me how meaningful it was to them."

Those interested in attending the 1996 seminars should contact Senator Bradley's Newark office at 201-639-2860 or his Marlton office at 609-983-4143 for complete details.

Valuable information on unclaimed scholarships

PORTSMOUTH, NH—With confusion over federal student grant approvals, direct government student loans and changes in college financial aid guidelines many students are finding it difficult to identify and understand their financial aid options and are missing out on receiving assistance that could be available to them.

Yet unknown to most people, there are over 375,000 scholarship and grant sources available which do not have to be paid back. More than 80 percent of these scholarships do not depend on family need or exceptional grades but are awarded based on factors such as the student's interests, hobbies, academic focus, age, heritage or parent's work or military service.

P.A.L. boxing team scores big at regional contest



P.A.L. boxing team with their coaches.

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange Police Athletic League (P.A.L.) boxing team recently took top honors at the PAL regional championships held in Saratoga Springs, NY. Five of the young boys of the seven-member team took first place in their respective weight classes.

The team is currently on tour to Kansas City, Kansas to compete in P.A.L.'s National Silver Glove Boxing Championships. Other nationals have been P.A.L. teams from Connecticut, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and New York.

The members, William DeLoatch,

According to the National Commission on Student Financial Aid over \$6 billion of funding goes uncollected each year simply because students are not aware of it and do not apply for it. Now, through the efforts of the National Academic Funding Administration (NAFAA) an updated publication for 1996 is available which provides important information that will help students seeking financial assistance.

For information on how to receive academic funding and scholarships send a No. 10 self addressed, double stamped business envelope plus \$2.00 to cover handling to NAFAA, 815 Middle Street, Suite 1400, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

Raheem Brown, Chris Parker, Daryl Brown, Chris Velez, Joseph Rivers and Eric Estelle were accompanied by their coaches: Officers Angel Concepcion and Greg Natson and PAL Director Detective Steven Sims.

"Since we began in June 1995, the boxing team has made impressive showings at the nine local tournaments in which they competed," said Officer Concepcion, a former three-time state Golden Glove champion. Officer Natson is also a former Golden Glove boxer. For more info about P.A.L. call 201-266-5071.

Morristown-Beard students host play festival

LIVINGSTON—Students at Morristown-Beard School will stage One Act Play Festival on Tuesday, March 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Wildlife Hall campus. The plays are *Murder in May*, *Spreading the News* and act one of *Cheaper by the Dozen*. Tickets are \$5 and may be reserved in advance by calling 201-539-3032, ext. 562.

This Week in Black History

FEBRUARY 28

1776 - George Washington, acknowledged Phillis Wheatley for a poem she wrote for his birthday.
1942 - Riots against African Americans occurred in Detroit at the Sojourner Truth homes.

1948 - Sgt. Cornelius F. Adley becomes the first minority for national independence of Ghana.

1977 - Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, actor, dies.

1984 - Michael Jackson wins eight Grammy Awards.

1991 - The Content of Our Character, the controversial book on affirmative action and race relations by Shelby Steele, wins the National Book Critics Circle Award.

FEBRUARY 29

1892 - Augusta Savage, sculptor and teacher, is born in Green Springs, FL.

1940 - Robert Sengstacke Abbott, newspaper editor and publisher of the Chicago Defender, dies in Chicago.

Hattie McDaniel receives an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role in "Gone With the Wind."

1958 - Kerner Report issues warning that America was moving toward "separate and unequal" societies.

MARCH 1

1780 - Pennsylvania becomes the first state to abolish slavery.

1864 - Rebecca Lee becomes the first African-American woman to earn a medical degree.

1875 - Civil Rights Law prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations is signed by President Grant.

1914 - Ralph Waldo Ellison, author of "The Invisible Man," is born.

1927 - Harry Belafonte, performer, activist is born.

MARCH 2

1807 - Congress declares the importation of slaves into the jurisdiction of the U.S. illegal as of January 1, 1808.

1919 - Alexander Crummell, Episcopal minister, founder of the American Negro Academy, is born free in New York City.

1867 - Willie Cowan, one of the earliest successful tap dancers, is born in Atlanta, GA.

1922 - Theater legend Bert Williams dies at 48 in New York City.

1932 - South African activist, Miriam Makeba, "Empress of African Song," is born.

1968 - In New York, Joe Frazier wins the heavyweight boxing title when he defeats Muhammad Ali by a technical knockout in the second round.

York City.

1867 - Howard University charter is issued.

1919 - Claude A. Barnett establishes the Associated Negro Press (ANP), the first national news service for African-American newspapers.

1921 - Harry Pace establishes Pace Photograph Corporation to produce records on the Black Swan label, the first African-American owned/produced record company.

1962 - Phil Spector's "76er With Chamberlain scores 100 points in an NBA game New York Knicks.

1986 - Sidney Barthet is elected mayor of New Orleans, LA, succeeding Ernest Morial as the second African-American mayor of the city.

MARCH 3

1920 - The Missouri Compromise becomes law in an attempt to resolve the conflict between pro- and anti-slavery forces.

1921 - Thomas L. Jennings receives a patent for an invention to dry scour clothes.

1965 - Friedman's Bureau is established to provide basic health education benefits to all freed men.

1896 - The South Carolina legislature passes a measure creating the Colored Normal Industrial, Agricultural and Mechanical College (later South Carolina State) in Orangeburg.

1962 - Jacqueline Joyner, Olympic champion, is born in East St. Louis, Ill.

1988 - Juanita Kidd Stout becomes the first African-American woman to serve on a state supreme court when she is sworn in as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

MARCH 4

1897 - Willie Cowan, one of the earliest successful tap dancers, is born in Atlanta, GA.

1922 - Theater legend Bert Williams dies at 48 in New York City.

1932 - South African activist, Miriam Makeba, "Empress of African Song," is born.

1968 - In New York, Joe Frazier wins the heavyweight boxing title when he defeats Muhammad Ali by a technical knockout in the second round.

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100 William Avenue
MILLBURN:
242 William Avenue
NAVESINK:
Highway 26 and Valley Drive
PLAINFIELD:
100 William Avenue
SHORT HILLS:
The Mall (Upper Level)

SPRINGFIELD:
100 William Avenue
MILBURN AND STONE AVENUE
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS:
100 William Avenue
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Highway 1 and Valley Drive
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LIFESTYLE S

Proposed HMO regulations gain support

RED BANK—John L. Adessa, chief executive officer of First Option Health Plan of New Jersey, Inc., one of the state's largest managed care organizations, announced his support for most of the proposed Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) regulations put forth by the Department of Health and urged the heads of the state's other HMOs to join him in declaring their support.

Citing the need to make the health care decision-making process more open and, therefore, more manageable for consumers, Adessa expressed confidence that many of the proposed regulations will be good for all concerned.

The Health Department's proposals will benefit providers and consumers alike, Adessa said, "and that means they'll be good for the industry itself. Without these changes, the public's concern about the quality of health care coming from the HMOs will continue to grow, and rightfully so."

State Health Commissioner Len Fishman announced the new HMO regulations in November. He noted that the managed care industry has grown to more than 1.4 million members and said that the increased enrollment necessitates a major over-

haul of the 21-year-old regulations that now apply to HMOs.

The Department was assisted by a 32-member Advisory Committee made up of individuals who represented consumers, physicians, nurses, HMOs, hospitals, labor unions and business. The League of Women Voters, the American Association for Retired Persons, the Public Health Council, the Department of Insurance and the Department of Human Services were also represented.

The Department of Health will hold public hearings on the proposed regulations beginning in April 1996.

Adessa urged the HMOs and the HMO Association not to wait for the hearings to register their support. "Every day we're seeing more industry criticism in the media," Adessa said. "We have to get out in front of the government and the media and make it clear that quality health care is our first priority."

First Option Health Plan of New Jersey, Inc., based in Red Bank, is a managed care company that is 100 percent owned and operated by physicians and hospitals. It provides a full line of commercial products for businesses and individuals, and provides Medicare, Medicaid and Workers' Compensation Programs.

Food for thought

Days of Hope: Race and Democracy in the New Deal Era

by Patricia Sullivan, W. E. B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University
Did the New Deal have any impact on the politics of the South? Patricia Sullivan's research focuses on how African Americans in the South responded to the New Deal and the political ferment of the 1930s. She uses interviews and memoirs to trace a biracial movement to vastly expand voting rights and political participation. She also looks at the rise in the number of NAACP chapters in the South and the increasing numbers of blacks who joined the new labor unions of the CIO. Her book has been highly praised by William Styron and civil rights leaders Julian Bond and Bob Moses.

Race and the Shaping of Twentieth-Century Atlanta

by Ronald H. Bayor, Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta's reputation as a racially

progressive city is misleading, says Ron Bayor in his new book. In the first comprehensive history of Atlanta race relations, Bayor argues that racial bias has played a major role in the physical and institutional development of the city that will host the 1996 Olympics. He also argues that the situation in Atlanta is by no means unique and can in fact be seen in many, if not most, American cities. In stores in May.

Southern Slavery and the Law, 1619-1860

by Thomas D. Morris, Portland State University (Oregon)
How did laws governing the enslavement of Africans develop in America at a time when Euro-American society that was just beginning to define itself? Thomas Morris consulted records in fifty counties and parishes throughout the South to reveal how laws governing slaves and slavery developed from the arrival of the first slave ship in 1619 to the Civil War. Morris spent many years researching the book, which has been chosen as a selection of the History Book Club.

City receives 'child care aware' grant

NEWARK—Officials of the City of Newark's Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that the agency's Office for Children will receive a portion of a \$19,000 grant from Child Care Aware (CCA).

The Rochester, Minnesota-based group makes annual awards to local organizations for communication programs that help parents understand the importance of high-quality child care, in order to select the best care for their children.

According to HHS/Office for Children officials the other collaborative recipients include: the County of Essex and Programs for Parents, Inc. of Verona. The Child Care Aware award selection was made from a field of 92 organizations nationwide.

Rosa Langston, manager of the Newark Office of Children, stated, "The aim of the county-wide collaborative is to conduct a campaign familiarizing prospective parents and new parents with childcare instruction designed to nurture and support the development of their children." Dr. Miriam Silver, professor of early Childhood Education at

Montclair State University, of these guidelines for parents previewing childcare facilities: the staff is professionally trained and has more than a year's experience with infants and toddlers; ongoing staff training is evident; sufficient staffing is in place so babies can be held and rocked as often as needed and held while being bottle fed; cleanliness and rigid hygienic practices to limit the spread of infection; a balancing of respect for the children and authority, and adequate supervision to protect babies from safety hazards of older children's activities.

Serving over 7,500 families throughout Essex County, Langston said the CCA initiative also offers the following services: training for child care center directors and staff; a child care food program for children in family day care homes; family day care training and registration for people choosing to care for their children at home; and Essex Cares for Kids, a child care subsidy program for low-income working families.

To contact the CCA office, please call: 1-800-424-2246, or for more details, please call the Office for Children 901-733-7976.

Black History Calendar

THRU FEBRUARY

EAST ORANGE—An exhibit featuring prominent black artists in the East Orange City Hall second floor featuring works by Alton Adams, Al Young, Lillian Ross, Margaret Warfield and Ted Ellis. For more info call 201-266-5334 or 266-5339.

NEWARK—Follow The Drinking Gourd, children's story on video at the Washington St. Library Billy Johnson Auditorium every Saturday the Sunday. For ages 6 to 10, free. For more info call 201-596-6550.

THRU MARCH 9

NEWARK—"Balancing Acts" African Images/American Portraits at the Newark Public Library. For more info call 201-733-7973.

THRU MARCH 31

PLAINFIELD—History in the Making—Honoring Achievement in Plainfield, 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays at the Drake House Museum 602 W. Front St. For more info call 908-755-6831.

THRU APRIL 12

NEW YORK—The history and achievements of black Americans are celebrated in a new exhibition entitled *Moments in Black History* featuring events of blacks who participated in the Revolution and other important events in America at the Seagram Garden, 375 Park Ave. For more info call 212-572-7373.

JERSEY CITY

—Black Achievers in Science, exhibition of accomplishments of African Americans in the fields of science, mathematics and engineering. Liberty Science Center. For more info call 201-200-1000.

THRU APRIL 17

SOUTH ORANGE—Aspects of American Art exhibit of African-American

art at Seton Hall University featuring artists Beverly Buchanan, Brett Cook, Dunne, Roy Crissie and Deborah Willes. For more info call 908-603-2608.

THRU APRIL 30

CHESTER—Hailan Art: A Triumph of Spirit featuring 18 paintings by 38 Haitian artists followed by a lecture at the Artists Showcase in Chester, NJ. For more info call 908-879-9552.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

NEWARK—The Newark Museum Rutgers University Law School panel discussion, Fathers in Prison: Maintaining the Family Through Law, Art & the Community, 5:30 p.m. in the Billy Johnson Auditorium. For more info call 201-596-6550.

BLOOMFIELD—Bloomfield College's "Kwanzaa in February Second Ujamaa Fair, with representatives of black-owned businesses sharing personal experiences, noon to 3 p.m. For more info call 201-748-9000, ext. 551.

CRANFORD—Movie "Mississippi Burning" at 4 p.m. at UCC. For more info call 908-709-7123.

NEWARK—R.E.A.L. Black Unity Inc. presents Youth on Youth Workshops at the South Ward Civic Association Little City Hall 1089-1091 Bergen St. at 7 p.m. for more info call 201-242-4912.

PLAINFIELD—Matt Jones & Ron Wolfe in concert at the Plainfield Senior Citizen Center, 1:30 p.m. For more info call 753-3506.

NEWARK—R.E.A.L. Black Unity Inc. presents Prison Outreach Workshops at the South Ward Civic Association, at 7 p.m. for more info call 201-242-4912.

Calendar continues on page 8

Hezekiah Walker in concert at Arts Center

RAHWAY—Soul Brothers Production Company, Inc. presents an evening with Grammy-Award winner Hezekiah Walker and The Love Fellowship Crusade Choir at Union County Arts Center in Rahway. Walker is an ordained minister and is the pastor of the Love Fellowship Church in Brooklyn, New York. The concert is scheduled for Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. For further ticket information call Mr. Dwayne Haskins at 908-422-1753.



The Newark Boys Chorus and School is an outstanding example of individual and team accomplishment. It shows how urban youth can use their dedication and talent to excel in both education and music.

The Chorus is acclaimed as one of Newark's finest cultural assets. It performs more than 50 concerts a year, including a tour abroad.

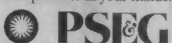
When not practicing, some 80 young men from diverse backgrounds attend accelerated school classes for grades four through eight. As graduates, these teenagers are well-prepared to finish high school and go on to college.

As we celebrate Black History Month, PSE&G is proud to support the Newark Boys Chorus.

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Where Education is An Art Where Art is An Education



Billboard

THRU MARCH 24
MILLBURN—World Premier of Comfortable Grooves by Clint Hornum at the Paper Mill Playhouse. For info call 201-376-4343.

THRU FEBRUARY 29
NEWARK—"Balancing Acts: Photographs from West Africa" by artist A. Oluogun Fayomi on display at the Africana Center for Contemporary Art. For more info call 201-733-7793.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29
NEW YORK, NY—"American Discovery" a salute to American music at Alice Tully Hall Lincoln Center at 8 p.m. For tickets call the Tully Hall Box Office at 212-721-6500.

MARCH 1 THRU 10
NEW YORK, NY—"Born to Sing, Mama" premieres at the Paramount Theatre starring Shirley Caesar and CeCe Winans. For tickets call TicketMaster outlets.

WESTFIELD—Westfield Symphony Orchestra in concert 8 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church on Mountain Ave. For more info call 908-232-9400.

UNION—NJ Ballet at the Wilkins Theatre in Kean College, 8 p.m. For more info call 908-527-2337.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2
SUMMIT—Summit Chorale presents A French Feast, music by French composers Charpentier, Jos Pre and featuring Faure's Requiem at the Crescent Ave. Presbyterian Church. For more info call 901-762-8489.

MARCH 5 & 6
WESTBURY, LI—Luther Vandross in concert at the Westbury Music Fair at 8 p.m. For tickets call TicketMaster at 516-334-0000.

MARCH 7 THRU 11
NEW YORK, NY—"18th annual Antepex at Jacob Javits Center. For more info call 212-366-1400.

FRIDAY MARCH 8
PATERSON—"Jubilation '96," A Celebration of African-American Life & Culture hosted by the Paterson Museum featuring fashion show, education exhibits and workshops. For more info call 201-685-9574 or 201-276-1570.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

BOOK REVIEW

Climbing Jacob's Ladder

Andrew Billingsley, Ph.D.
by John Leonard

Andrew Billingsley is one of the nation's outstanding scholars of African-American experience. His credentials include Professor of Family Studies, University of Maryland-Viiting Scholar, Spelman College in Atlanta; recipient of prodigious honors, including the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Association of Black Sociologists. He has been a long-time consultant to the National Urban League.

The author's solid credentials are reflected in this extremely thorough study of the enduring legacy of African-American family. His vision in *Climbing Jacob's Ladder* involves examining the African-American family structure from the historic past to the present.

His dissertation concerns the pattern and process which contributes to the strength, resiliency and the enduring notion of the African-American family. Here, the thrust and emphasis in this book concern how history has been shaped by black families living together.

Indeed, according to the author,

the African-American family units remained substantially together even through slavery.

The theme continues with the proposition that there exists many misconceptions about family life. This book is replete with statistical data which assist in clearing up common myths and misinformation about African-American families.

Theoretical propositions are evaluated in 6 parts of the book:

1. The Whole of the African-American family is greater than its parts
2. History is prologue
3. Society has the upper hand
4. African-American families are adaptive
5. African-American community is generative
6. The future of the African-American families is emerging

Significant discussion rages here concerning society advantage as applied to the black family. Take Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan's *The Negro Family, The Case for National Action*.

Here, we find the Senator spouting about certain weaknesses in black families which create problems for

black people in society at large, especially in the areas of education, employment and politics.

"The white family" he contended, achieved a high degree of stability and is maintaining stability. Moreover, he contended, that white people, because of strong family structure, do better in society. "At the heart of the deterioration of the fabric of the Negro society is the deterioration of the Negro family. It is fundamental source of weakness at the present time," Moynihan wrote.

In sum, the notion put forth by Moynihan seems to be that there is less need to revamp or change the structure of society; less need for civil rights legislation and affirmative action and more need for the African-American family to change its internal make up by putting a man in charge of every house!!

This very dangerous, wrong-headed Moynihan doctrine is strongly controverted by Professor Billingsley. Indeed, a critical analysis bares out the fact that African Americans experience deprivation in the areas of education as well as economic and political.

See JACOB'S LADDER/page 10



Members of the South African music group Ladysmith Black Mambazo appearing in *Nomathemba*.

Lady Black Mambazo stars in *Nomathemba*

NEW BRUNSWICK—An acclaimed South African a cappella group Ladysmith Black Mambazo is set to star in a Crossroads Theatre production of *Nomathemba* (boys in Zulu), a new musical by Kwesi Shange. Ladysmith Black Mambazo founder and leader Joseph Shabalala and Eric.

The production is scheduled to be presented for three performances April 13 and 14 at the State Theatre in New Brunswick.

The *Chicago Tribune* said of *Nomathemba* which premiered at Steppenwolf Theatre in Spring of

1995, "At the deep, singing heart of Steppenwolf Theatre's beautiful and deeply moving production of *Nomathemba* is that fragile and precious element of life called hope. It is hope hemmed in by tragedy and uncertainty, set in a changing South Africa, but it is hope nonetheless, and in the end, it is triumphant."

The play, a spectacle featuring 23 actors, as well as musicians, opulent costumes and a colorful set, was developed from a simple love song that Joseph Shabalala wrote over thirty years ago. The song is the story of a

See NOMATHEMBA/page 10

Crossroads presents *Fear Itself*

NEW BRUNSWICK—Crossroads Theatre Company will produce the world premiere production of *Fear Itself*, written by former Negro Ensemble Company member Eugene Lee. The play, which begins previews March 2, opens March 7 and closes April 7.

A rare combination of poetry, dialogue and character study, the play challenges some common African-American beliefs and misconceptions about manhood and how it is expressed.

Cornelius Beeman's son Harry Lee is a teenage football star who discovers he is a talented poet. This gratifying means of self-expression both scares and excites Harry Lee, who has lost his mother at a young

age and struggles to unleash the feelings he has bottled inside.

As a young, athletically-talented black male, Harry Lee is expected to use sports to make his mark on the world. This is how Cornelius lived his own life, and he expects no difference from his son.

Sports is given importance over knowledge, learning and self-expression, and Cornelius' feelings chase his son away from writing.

Sports and entertainment are the only two roads that Cornelius is conditioned to believe lead anywhere. However, the strongest supporter of Harry Lee's poetry is Cornelius' own girlfriend, Eva. For tickets call the box office at 908-249-5560.

Cablevision of Newark adds News 12 New Jersey

NEWARK—Newark and South Orange residents will no longer have to turn to New York stations to find local news. Now there is an alternative. NEWS 12 NEW JERSEY, a 24 hour news and information network dedicated to covering news in New Jersey and carried by Cablevision of Newark.


NEWS 12 NEW JERSEY will present coverage of local news and information, including high school and college sports, weather, traffic and a variety of public affairs and

special interest programming. In addition to its studio-office complex in Edison, NEWS 12 NEW JERSEY will have six news bureaus around the state, including one in Newark.

With the addition of NEWS 12 NEW JERSEY there will be a slight adjustment in channels. NEWS 12 NEW JERSEY will appear on Channel 12 and Nickelodeon will move from Channel 12 to Channel 13. The Classified Ad Channel will move from Channel 18 to Channel 19.

Tuck and Patti Jazz it up at Club Bené

SAVERVILLE—Epic recording artists, Tuck and Patti will be appearing in concert at the Club Bené Dinner Theatre on Tuesday, March 12. The jazz duo is currently touring in support of their debut release on Epic Records titled *Learning How to Fly*. The concert will begin at 8:30 p.m. with an optional dinner at 7 p.m. For reservations call Club Bené at 908-727-3000.



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Business Calendar

THRU MARCH 6
JERSEY CITY—Problem Solving to help classroom professionals, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., sponsored by Hudson County College's Department of Continuing Education. For more info call 943-9714, 2107.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29
PHILADELPHIA—Free business reception and dinner meeting the African Caribbean/Black Business Community sponsored by AT&T at AYINDES, 18 n. 40th St. Philadelphia. You must RSVP to 908-412-9439 or by fax to 908-756-2843.

FEBRUARY 29 THRU MARCH 5
WASHINGTON—77th Annual AGC Convention and Constructor Exposition, sponsored by the AGC of America. For more info call 202-392-2040.

MARCH 4 & 5
PITTSBURGH, PA—Pittsburgh Regional Minority Business Conference, 22nd Annual Trade Fair at the Pittsburgh Hilton & Towers Gateway Center. For more info call Laura Hunt at 412-391-4422.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5
MAHWAH—Business networking at Ramapo College with Dr. Irene Kellner, chief economist for Chemical Bank, in the student center Alumni Lounge Rm. 158 at 8 p.m. For more info call 201-529-7811.

WESTFIELD—How to Develop a Personal Financial Plan seminar at Merrill Lynch's Westfield office, 7:30 p.m. To reserve a seat call 908-739-4335.

MARCH 8 THRU 17
SOUTH PLACAS—The National Minority Business Council (NMBC) presents a B. For more info call NMBC at 212-573-2385.

MARCH 8-10
WASHINGTON—International Franchise Expo, sponsored by the IFA, to be held at the Washington Convention Center. For additional info call 407-647-8521.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12
RARITAN—Balancing Work and Family TWIN Women in Management meeting at 7:00 P.M. 202 in Raritan. For more info call 908-756-3836.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

AT&T awarded \$1.5 billion in minority contracts

BASKING RIDGE—In 1995, AT&T purchased more from minority and women-owned businesses than ever before—\$1.5 billion—and ended up achieving its Minority and Women's Enterprise (MWE) program's five-year goal in two years.

The company recently celebrated its accomplishments at AT&T headquarters during the annual recognition ceremony for its MWE pur-

chasing program.

According to Dan Carroll, AT&T's chief procurement officer, in 1995 the company purchased MWE goods and services totaling \$1.5 billion—\$700 million from minorities, and \$800 million from women.

AT&T set its MWE five-year goal in 1993 as part of its accelerated diversity strategy. The goal was to

increase MWE purchases by 10 percent annually. By year's end 1995, MWE had increased purchases by 44 percent over 1994.

"The strength of the MWE program is the strategic alliances we build with our suppliers," Carroll said. "Our 44-percent increase in 1995 shows just how strong the program—and our supplier alliances—are."

Carroll said those achievements

reflect AT&T's efforts to create opportunity for minority and women-owned businesses. "Diversity makes good business sense," he said, which is why the MWE program—once confined to AT&T's purchasing department—is now integrated into the business plans of every AT&T division and business unit.

AT&T's MWE program was

created in 1968 to encourage the growth and development of minority and women-owned firms. At least 51 percent of a company must be owned by a woman or a member of a minority group. The woman or minority owner must be involved in the day-to-day management of the company and must exercise decision-making power.

BIG mentors increase membership and community involvement

by Charli Holmes

NEPTUNE—Blacks in Government, BIG MENTORS chapter, P.O. Box 10000, 10000, Region II, met on January 27 in Neptune. Region II President, Alter L. Cochran, discussed issues relating to National Voter Registration and Affirmative Action Programs. Cochran thanked the Mentors for their ongoing support of fund-raisers and community programs. He commended them on their drive to increase membership. The chapter membership has doubled within the last month. He also acknowledged their continued efforts to provide scholarships to high school seniors.

The Fort Monmouth Mentors chapter has been active in establishing and maintaining programs and activities which provide education and training for career development and advancement.

Each year the chapter provides scholarship awards to deserving high school seniors in Monmouth and Ocean counties. The objectives of the Mentors education program is to encourage pride and motivation in young men and women for the achievement of full potential and recognition of excellence.

Cochran installed the following

new officers to the chapter: Deborah Baker, president; Dan Martin, vice president; Charli Holmes, secretary; Barbara Scott, treasurer and Ruby Howard, corresponding secretary.

"Working together we can be a

void for change," Baker said.

BIG was organized in 1975 and is dedicated to the interest of the African-American public servant. BIG speaks out on issues affecting the government workplace, such as the EEO process, affirmative action and racial discrimination. BIG is a national organization with eleven regions, and over 200 chapters, covering all 50 states and Puerto Rico, Guam, Virgin Islands, Trust Territory of Pacific Islands and American Samoa.

Each year BIG has a national training conference with over 3,800 federal employees attending. The conference provides training workshops for career enhancement, government agency forums, major keynote speakers such as Rev. Jesse Jackson and Rep. Maxine Waters.

The MENTORS chapter will be sponsoring their Third Annual Scholarship Luncheon on April 20. For further information Deborah Baker, 908-244-0050 or Charli Holmes, 908-542-0540.

Home Depot

Nell Parker, a corporate spokeswoman for the Atlanta-based Home Depot, confirmed that LTN tried to make the purchases, but said the store manager was following proper procedures and the refusal was not racially motivated.

On February 17, the Prince

Voice

logue and congregations not only need spiritual saving, but "also need civil rights saving." She told the ministers not to underestimate the power of their congregation.

Providing an example of power, Harrington said the group was instrumental in the removal of CBS executive John Pike who reportedly made disparaging remarks about blacks having a limited attention span and were only capable of sitting through long comedy sketches.

"The voice of the NAACP is still heard," Harrington insisted. She said the organization is awaiting a formal apology from CBS "regarding these outrageous, assassinating comments about our people."

Harrington said however, that the organization should not only respond to crisis situations but, along with the

Continued from page 1

George's County Branch of the NAACP announced that they would support Love Thy Neighbor and any actions they choose to take against the Home Depot. "There is some kind of disease running rampant through the merchants here in Prince George's County," said president Hardi L. Jones, "and it's time to eradicate it."

Continued from page 1

black church, must be available to lead with the education and economic needs of the community.

A teacher in the Patterson school district, Harrington said the community must be prepared to compete in a growing technological world. She said it was the NAACP's agenda to prepare for the 21st century and the technology that will accompany it.

Black History Calendar

Continued from page 6

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

NEWARK—Dr. Adelaide Sanford will discuss new educational goals and perspectives for the black community at ECC. For more info call 201-877-3205.

HOWELL—The Dunbar Repertory Co. presents "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuff" at the Amanda Theatre in Howell. For times and ticket rates call 908-938-4133.

BLOOMFIELD—Kwanza Celebration Luncheon at Bloomfield College, 4 to 6 p.m. free. For more info call 201-748-9000 ext. 561.

NEWARK—The Newark Public Library book discussion, Black Labor, While We Wait. The Search for Power and Economic Justice with Dr. Claud Anderson at 2 p.m. For more info call 201-733-5411.

LINCOLN—Social and political discussion with Dr. Barbara Justice on "The AIDS Crisis in the African American Community" at BCC Rm. 103 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

PLAINFIELD—Safe Haven Black History celebration at the library features a visit by artist Altonzo Adams leading an exploration of a collection of portraits of notable blacks. For more info call the library at 908-757-1111.

LINCOLN—Showing of For colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuff" at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students with a limit of 4 and \$10 for general audience.

MARCH 1-3
HOWELL—The Dunbar Repertory Co. presents "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuff" at the Amanda Theatre in Howell. For times and ticket rates call 908-938-4133.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2
NEWARK—Gospel Explosion '96 featuring the New Life Community Church, the Temple Revival Choir of Newark and Essential Elements at the Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church at 7 p.m. For ticket info call 201-973-1821 or 201-343-6343.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6
NEWARK—Harriet Tubman Birthday Celebration as part of the People's Organization for Progress meeting at the Newark Public Library.

MARCH 2 & 3
MAPLEWOOD—The Columbia High School MLK Association and Concerned Parents of Color presents "Dick Gregory Live" at 7 p.m. at the High School auditorium, 17 Parker Ave. Sunday's performance will be at 3 p.m. For ticket info call 201-763-4202 or 201-378-7754.

ATTENTION



residents of
Monmouth County



THE MONMOUTH COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS HAS CREATED A FAIR HOUSING OFFICE AND APPOINTED A FAIR HOUSING BOARD

The Monmouth County Fair Housing Board has been established by the Board of Chosen Freeholders to provide policy and guidance on compliance with State and Federal fair housing laws and regulations to protect the rights of all Monmouth County residents. The Fair Housing Office will provide the following services:

1. Coordination of a county-wide approach to ensure fair housing for residents.
2. Establishment of an intake and screening procedure for discrimination complaints. Services will include assistance and counseling on procedures for filing a complaint, help in completing the complaint form, and review and verification process.
3. Provide general information and assistance on housing problems, and when necessary refer clients to other agencies that are funded and staffed to handle a specific housing problem, including referral to the New Jersey Department of Civil Rights.
4. Education, training and technical assistance to individuals, groups, agencies and/or organizations.
5. Acquire and coordinate assistance of New Jersey Division of Civil Rights, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for verification of discrimination practices and negotiating settlement for fair housing problems.

The office will provide service and assistance to the general public however, we have targeted the following groups as our highest priority:

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East Orange mayor guest of Long Branch Dems



LONG BRANCH—East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper talks with community leaders at cocktail party at the home of Avery and Annie Grant. Pictured are (l to r): Vivian Martin, newspaper columnist; Kelli Drakeford, legislative aide to Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr.; Lisa Thornton, Long Branch NAACP president; and Mary Lee Gilmore, Asbury Park-Neptune NAACP second vice president. Mayor Cooper was guest speaker for the Long Branch Democratic Club meeting. He stressed the need for voter registration and participation, and emphasized the necessity to educate the voters about the current realities, issues and consequences.

Urban achievers

Continued from page 1

City News, beginning with this commentary, is launching a debate to re-focus attention on creating schools that produce significant numbers of high achieving African-American children and other children from low income families.

Likewise, we intend to raise the bar for what we consider achievement. The total community must become aware of what is needed to build urban school systems that create academic success for the masses of students who attend.

We will discuss the short-comings of current school reforms, state take-overs, and state driven curriculum standards. We will also consider the issues of race, intelligence, and poverty, and review the issue of tenure policy. Is it the problem or an important part of the solution? We will get into some of the hottest and most sensitive topics not openly discussed and how these issues may have provided the foundation for the decline of urban schools. Lastly, but most importantly, we will highlight educational models that are already creating massive achievement among children of color. We will focus on restructuring our schools, implementing new technology and how technology and re-structuring will create a nation of urban achievers.

New Jersey has issued new standards. Jersey City, Newark and Paterson schools have been taken over by the state, yet the state will not guarantee that a take-over means higher achievement for the masses of students in those districts. Nor will they guarantee that new core standards will mean higher performance on SAT's. Why???

Don't miss the next issue of City News, as we begin our exploration of what will work in New Jersey's schools, in part 2, "Education: the Urban Solution" where we will take a look at the state's solution: school takeovers and educational reform.

Henry C. Johnson received his Ph.D. in educational psychology at Michigan State University. He has extensive experience in public schools and medical education.

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Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation helps to provide the foundation for achievement with contributions to organizations like the United Negro College Fund and the

National Hispanic Scholarship Fund. The company also supports many other institutions of higher learning with direct contributions and by matching gifts from our employees.

Brown & Williamson is committed to providing an opportunity to help our future leaders achieve excellence. Self esteem and determination are the basis for this achievement. Opportunity is the means. Brown & Williamson pledges its support to help tomorrow's leaders obtain the Ultimate Achievement.



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- Individuals who use their success to uplift the black communities of New Jersey
- Individuals who use their positions to promote good corporate citizenship
- Individuals who selflessly do extraordinary community service
- Individuals who not only understand the critical importance of rebuilding New Jersey's urban communities, but also commit significant time and resources to urban revitalization



May 2, 1996

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For information on sponsorship and tickets: Call Jan Johnson (908) 754-3400

Essex ministers act for education

NEWARK—Outraged by the continued decline in urban public schools, Essex County ministers will gather to discuss the role of the church and the state government in honest improvement of education for urban students. The guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. James A. Scott, Pastor of Bethany Baptist Church and Professor of Education at Rutgers University.

The meeting is sponsored by the Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry and the East Orange Clergy Association. It will be held Thursday, February 29, beginning 9 a.m. at Cavalry Baptist Church, 66 So. Grove Street, East Orange. The meeting is for clergy only and reservations must be made in advance by calling 201-481-6650.

The religious community will not stand idly by and allow the government to destroy public schooling without our active involvement in school improvement efforts. The state may be wasting more than a million dollars in Newark duplicating reports and studies on food services and other programs that have been previously investigated by both the state and the Middle States Association. Further,

there is a concern that the State Plan in Newark may be a backdoor approach to creating private charter schools rather than the reform of the public schools system," according to Stephen Jones, Executive Director of Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry. Jones also stated that "While invitations have

Rail

Continued from page 1

NJ Transit.

"The combination of mixed-use development, high population density, low incomes and low auto ownership rates helps to create a transit-supportive environment." This new transportation service will provide easy access along a North-South route that was not easily accessible on the East-West ones.

The HBLRTS will give access

Nomathemba

Continued from page 7

young girl, Nomathemba, and her search for a happy and meaningful life in South Africa.

Nomathemba leaves behind what is known to her and journeys to the "big city" Johannesburg, in search of acknowledgment as an important and significant person. Bongani, her fiancé, also from her small village, is heartbroken, and embarks on his own search to find her and bring her home.

Separately, the two lovers make poignant discoveries about them-

selves and each other through their journeys. What it seems as though all hope is lost and that Nomathemba and Bongani will continue down their different paths, they are reunited, and a beautiful and joyous celebration ends the play.

Musician Joseph Shabalala, an accomplished songwriter who is perhaps best known for his group's collaboration on Paul Simon's album, *Graceland*, has recorded over thirty albums since the 1970s with Ladysmith Black Mambazo.

trust and lack of involvement in public schooling.

The Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry is an interfaith coalition of more than 100 congregations working toward strengthening youth and their families and economic development in urban Essex County.

The first phase, approximately 10 to 12 miles, will be open to passengers from 34th Street in Bayonne to the Hoboken Terminal. The program intends to employ a new kind of construction to America called DBOM (Design, Build, Operate, Maintain), that has been utilized in many European and Asian countries.

This will involve a turnkey company to see to the final design, construction, operation and maintenance of the new system for a specified period of time, possibly 15 years. Request for bids were sent out in 1995, and a final decision will hopefully be made soon.

Lena's pes sue

Continued from page 1

Candiano could not be reached for comment. Chinnici declined to comment and deferred questions to city attorney Raymond Shebell who was not available and is also giving depositions.



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Jacob's Ladder

Continued from page 7

cal shortchanging, and all of these causes patterns of instability.

But what Moyinhan fails to address is the fact that the black family crisis is not of their making. The point argued by Billingsley and others is that social institutions should be changed so that a level playing field exists and that function should operate as well for blacks as they do for whites.

That includes female-headed families as they do for male-headed families and also as well for the poor as these social institutions apply to the privileged.

Space does not permit additional discussion of this really stimulating work. In conclusion, this is an important book coming out at this time when the public-at-large needs to understand the problems and the strengths of the African-American family.

Dr. Billingsley's wholistic approach to this topic is intended to dispel the stereotypical views held by the white community and the white dominated media. *Climbing Jacob's Ladder* is a must read.

Land of cotton

Continued from page 7

plantations in such a position of great influence. States having slaveholders with more than twenty slaves, tended to be most productive with cotton.

Many myths obscure our understanding of the vast region of the antebellum South. It was not a vast society only resembled life as it has been portrayed on "Gone With the Wind." The realities of the South and slavery were much more complex. There were many Souths, encompassing several geographic regions, each with different economic bases and social structures, and each reflecting its own cultural and political values, each having a different effect on slavery and the few free blacks in the South.

Claims

Continued from page 1

County Prosecutor Edward M. Neafsey Tornado, in the presence of other female inmates, made "a co-conspirator of a sexual nature" to the trustees when she was brought into the jail.

After seeing Tornado on a news-cast claiming to have been raped, one of the women came forward. This resulted in further investigation and detectives gaining more information from some of the other women that were booked with Tornado.

After being presented with the statements from the women and polygraph tests from both Johnson and Cannon, Tornado signed sworn statements admitting that there was no forced sex and waiving prosecution of the two inmates.

When informed that the prosecutor's office dropped charges against the two men, Tornado went back to her original claim of rape.

Drastic changes have occurred at the jail and will continue as a result of this incident. Officers who work in the booking and releasing area of the jail have been reassigned, and as many as a dozen officers could be reassigned following the outcome. Two officers have been suspended and proceedings to fire them and maybe others are under way.

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